N. S. Vol. 14, No. 4. April, 1925

BULLETIN

OF THE

Medical Library Association

QUARTERLY

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON THE ALBANY MEDICAL ANNALS

In connection with the disposition of large numbers of duplicates of the Albany Medical Annals, these notes on certain of its publication peculiarities, particularly of the early volumes, have been prepared by the New York State Library.

Volume 1 consists of six numbers, for February, April, June, August, October and December, 1880. As issued each number has two paginations, the first for the Annals and the second for the Transactions of the Medical Society of the County of Albany, each of 136 pages. Page 136 of the Annals is an index. There seems to have been no title-page for the volume.

Volume 2 begins with January, 1881, and thereafter the Annals were issued monthly. The separate paging is continued, 176 pages for Annals and 248 for Transactions. Neither index nor title-page appears in the New York State Library copy. A New York State Medical Society daily edition was published on February 1, 2 and 3, 1881, the three numbers paged consecutively 1-24. This was issued during the annual convention of the Medical Society, but is not noted on the three issues as actually belonging to Volume 2.

Volume 3 is paged continuously, the two series being continued. The volume paging is Annals 177-336 and Transactions —#. The index is on pages 335-6 Annals. There is no title-page in the State Library copy. A State Medical Society daily edition was issued on Febrnary 7, 8 and 9, 1882, the three numbers containing 32 pages.

Volume 4. With and after Volume 4 there is but one paging, Volume 4 having pages 1-288. With number 4, for April, 1883, is included a title-page and index for Volume 3 (1870-80) of the Transactions of the Medical Society of the County of Albany. This index is paged 381-96. The index and title-page for Volume 4 are in number 12.

Volume 5 has 384 pages, with title-page and index.

After Volume 5, the publication appears to be regular through Volume 43, with number 12 of which the journal ceased publication.

For Volumes 1-5 the title is "The Medical Annals," for Volumes 6-43, "Albany Medical Annals."

TREASURER'S REPORT

From May 3, 1923, to May 31, 1924

RECEIPTS.

Balance Baltimore Commercial Bank, May 3, 1923	$1,404.51	
Library and Individual Dues	1,678.25	
Sale of Bulletin	9.00	
Interest	32.23	
		$3,123.99

EXPENSES.

Printing	$ 134.30	
Bulletin	140.00	
Petty Cash	50.00	
Supplies	60.48	
Freight and Packing	73.52	
Overpaid Dues	10.00	
Salaries	798.00	
Traveling Expenses	100.00	
Canadian Exchange	1.86	
	$1,368.16	
Balance in Baltimore Commercial Bank, May 31, 1924	$1,755.83	
		$3,123.99

(Signed) JOHN RUHRAH,
Treasurer.

BILLS OUTSTANDING.

Bulletin	$85.00
Printing	39.00
Total	$124.00

SECRETARY'S REPORT

1923-1924

	1923	1924
Library Members	77	83
New Members	5	.....
Reinstated	2	.....
Unpaid, but Carried	1	.....
Resigned	1	.....
Individual Members	137	139
Resigned	2	.....
New Members	4	10
Unpaid, but Carried	17	.....

REPORT OF THE EXCHANGE OF THE MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

May, 1923, to Dec. 31, 1923,

and

Jan., 1924, to May 31, 1924.

May, 1923, to Jan. 1, 1924.					Jan. 1, 1924, to June 1, 1924.			
Number of books and journals received in monthly lists and in the Exchange.		Libraries supplied from monthly lists and numbers apportioned to each.			Number of books and journals received in monthly lists and in the Exchange.		Libraries supplied from monthly lists and numbers apportioned to each.	
Vols.	Nos.	Vols.	Nos.		Vols.	Nos.	Vols.	Nos.
		1	73	American College of Surgeons			19	33
				American Medical Association			26	
				Baylor University				2
		38	72	Boston Medical Library			34	196
				Calhoun Medical Library			168	74
		9	6	University of California			58	78
2	285		73	Cincinnati Hospital Library			5	8
			12	Cleveland Medical Library Association			22	15
		2	21	Clifton Springs Sanitarium	93	45	47	38
		11	29	College of Physicians of Philadelphia			66	41
		33	182	College of Physicians and Surgeons			14	20
		2	115	Cornell University Medical College			13	17
	142			University of Georgia				5
		6	64	Hennepin Co. Medical Society Library			20	72
	588	4	129	Hospital Library and Service Bureau	38	356	56	149
		7	16	University of Illinois			35	4
		2		Janeway Memorial Library	89	306	2	3
				Jefferson Medical College			26	2
		2	12	John Crerar Library			6	33
		4	68	Johns Hopkins Hospital			37	11
		1		Johns Hopkins University			29	14
		66	511	Lane Medical Library				16
			6	Luzerne Co. Medical Society			22	16
		54	9	Kings County Medical Society			19	63
		2	119	McGill University Medical Dept.	29	121	5	
		3		Marquette Medical School	165	112	12	
		3	52	University of Maryland			17	9
		8	50	Mayo Clinic Library			25	22
		26	443	Medical and Chirurgical Fac. of Md.	484	185	105	86
37	147	4	45	Mercy Hospital			3	1
		1	7	University of Michigan			8	16
				Montefiore Hospital			43	19
				Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium				3
		16	10	University of Nebraska			21	15
		15	136	New York Academy of Medicine			63	17
		25	670	University of the State of New York			14	37
		4	9	University of Oregon			17	14
		1	27	Orleans Parish Medical Society			17	100
		8	25	Philadelphia Gen'l Hospital Laboratories			92	27
		3	3	Pueblo Clinic Library			15	11
		1	308	Rockefeller Foundation				2
		4	1	Rockefeller Institute		86	2	17
				Rush Medical College			2	
41	*1559	2	44	St. Louis Medical Society			1	22
		1	7	St. Louis University			27	81
				Schuylkill County Medical Society	1465	670	22	55
			9	Syracuse University			21	12
			4	University of Tennessee			36	41
				University of Texas				8
				Toronto Academy of Medicine			44	151
				Treadwell Library, Mass. Gen'l Hospital	42	331		14
		2	35	Trudeau Sanatorium			51	23
			3	Tuberculosis League of Pittsburgh			1	20
			2	Vancouver Medical Association			5	
		1	5	Vanderbilt University			10	
31	156	25	82	Medical College of Virginia			98	123
		3	39	Washington University			8	
				Worcester District Medical Library			1	
		3		Yale University			60	4
12	150	17	73	Zoology Dept., University of California	7	402	58	20
		1		Harvard Medical School Library				
		6	64	Henry Ford Hospital Library				
		56	857	Iowa State Library (Des Moines)				
No count made				Jackson County Medical Society Library				
		1	24	University of Rochester				
464	2593	6		Various sources				
587	5620	484	4551	Totals	2418	2614	1855	1906

* Also many volumes not enumerated.

REPORT OF THE EXCHANGE

The report of the Exchange is divided into two parts: The first covering the months, May to October, 1923, when the work was continued on the old basis, and the second from January 1st to May 31st, after a full time assistant was employed. Up until this time no office supplies had ever been purchased except those for mimeographing the lists and for wrapping the bundles. The typewriter was the only piece of furniture the Association owned—even the use of the mimeograph as well as furniture and rent having been donated by the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty for the past fifteen years.

On January 1st, half of the committee room on the first floor of the building was given over to the Association as an office and the unlimited storage and sorting space in the basement was, of course, continued. As it has been operated since January 1st, the Exchange may be continued with us as long as the finances to run it are forthcoming. Some office furniture will have to be collected and for the first time almost in its history the Exchange will stand on its own feet.

I have been asked to explain the situation in detail that all our members may understand just what has been spent on operating the Exchange to date. Until this year the Association has never paid more than forty dollars per month in salaries in all its history. At times this has included a full time worker, and always janitor services, the latter never being paid more than five dollars per month.

For a few months, from December 1, 1899, to May 31, 1900, the Exchange was operated in Philadelphia where the first manager gave a room in her home, which was shelved to accommodate the original material acquired. This material came chiefly from Philadelphia publishers, through Dr. G. M. Gould. On December 1, 1900, the Exchange was moved to Baltimore, to the Library of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty where it remained four years. At that time it cost the Association only fifteen dollars per month to administer the Exchange and have its publication edited. This first series of our Bulletin ran for two years only, and any one having duplicates of these two volumes will be conferring a great favor by sending them in to headquarters. The Bulletin was merged in the Medical Library and Historical Journal in 1903, and our transactions were printed in this journal until it ceased publication in 1907.

The accumulated material and the typewriter were shipped to Brooklyn to be administered by the Librarian of the Medical Society of the County of Kings, in 1905. Even then very little was paid for the clerical work, but the cost of packing and shipping was increasing and slowly the amount distributed by the Exchange dwindled until it finally ceased in 1908.

In May, 1909, the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty dedicated its present building and having plenty of space for storage the Library Committee again offered to take the Exchange. At first a regular assistant was employed, but as the magnitude of the task seemed to appal them and other fields offered more salary, each one left and it was decided to apportion the work among our own helpers. As the Exchange grew this became an increasing drain, as the work could not be done in extra time, neither could we continue to share our assistants as our own work had grown correspondingly and all their thought and energy was required.

You have had this past five months a demonstration of what a trained full time assistant can do for you. I know you have found it worth while. The Treasurer's report shows a balance that will permit this service to be continued on the same basis for another year. After that "the deluge" unless some financial aid other than that from the dues of members is forthcoming. Increasing the number of members will help, as Doctor Ruhrah has said, but what we should have is an endowment to carry on this work. It is surely the extension of medical education in its most necessary form for medical schools cannot function without books for tools and libraries for workshops. Consider the statistical part of this report carefully and see what you can do to secure the necessary endowment.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) MAURICE C. NOYES,
Manager.

PROGRAM FOR THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING AT ATLANTIC CITY, MAY 25-26, 1925

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 25, 1925
MARLBOROUGH-BLENHEIM HOTEL

10:30 A. M. Registration of members and guests.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 25, 1925

1:00 P. M. 1. Opening of the meeting - - Col. C. F. Wylde
President, Medical Library Association

2. Address - - - - Dr. William J. Mayo
Rochester, Minnesota

3. Business meeting.
   - Reading of the minutes.
   - Reports of the Secretary, Treasurer, Finance Committee, Executive Committee and Manager of the Exchange.
   - Election of members.
   - Election of officers.
   - New business.

4. Reference Service - Miss Metta M. Loomis
College of Medicine, University of Illinois

MONDAY EVENING, MAY 25, 1925

7:00 P. M. Dinner.

8:00 P. M. 1. Address - - - Dr. Horace M. Brown
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2. The Relation of the History of Medicine to Medical Education - - - Dr. Frederick A. Coller
Ann Arbor, Michigan

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 26, 1925

MARLBOROUGH-BLENHEIM HOTEL

9:00 A. M. 1. Practical Education of the Student in the Medical Library - - - - Col. C. F. Wylde,
McGill University

2. Special Training for Medical Librarianship,
Mr. J. F. Ballard,
Boston Medical Library

Discussion - - Dr. Linsly R. Williams
New York Academy of Medicine
Mr. C. Perry Fisher,
College of Physicians of Philadelphia
Miss Margaret Brinton,
Mayo Clinic

3. American Association for Medical Progress, Inc.,
Miss Mary Lee Thurman, Executive Secretary

4. Unfinished Business.
Meeting of Executive Committee.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 26, 1925

1:00 P. M. 1. William Charles Wells of Charleston and London,
Dr. Stewart R. Roberts,
Atlanta, Georgia

2. Library Plans and Planning - Mr. D. B. Gilchrist,
Rochester University

3. Library and Inter-Library Loans,
Miss Sue Biethan,
University of Michigan

THE LIFE OF SIR WILLIAM OSLER

By Harvey Cushing

The publication of the Life of Osler by his friend and disciple, Harvey Cushing, is an event. Osler's profound influence pervaded the whole of the English-speaking world. His name was a talisman wherever medicine was taught, studied, or practised. The variety of his interests, and his enormous powers of work, made his life a kaleidoscope of public activity. It is impossible to read fifty pages of this book without realizing that Osler was indeed a very very great man. It is not technical, and the layman will perhaps be even more struck than the professional by the picture which the "Life" gives of the profession as a whole. The secret of a wonderful life is unfolded in these pages.

BULLETIN

OF THE

MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EDITED BY

JOHN RUHRÄH, M. D. MISS M. C. NOYES

Address all communications to the
Bulletin of the Medical Library Association, 1211 Cathedral Street,
Baltimore, Md.

VOL. XIV APRIL, 1925 No. 4

"LEST WE FORGET"

Previous to the founding of this Association the larger medical libraries throughout the country had been doing missionary work for their weaker fellows as occasion arose; but large masses of valuable medical literature were wasted each year through donors' inability to learn where this was needed, and lack of time to make the necessary inquiries and lists. The plan to remedy, in part at least, this state of affairs was conceived by Dr. George M. Gould, of Philadelphia, through whose zeal, and the assistance of Miss M. R. Charlton, Librarian of McGill University Medical Department, Montreal, the Medical Library Association was organized at Philadelphia, May 2, 1898, with a membership of eight. The purpose of this Association, as mapped out by Doctor Gould, was incorporated in a constitution which provides, among other things, that the object of the Association shall be the fostering of medical libraries, and the maintenance of an exchange of medical literature among its members.

The following quotation from Doctor Gould's address at the founding of this Association will refresh our minds with the vision that has been ours during the steady growth of the organization:

"It is a most noteworthy fact that during the stage of their inception and formation, the constructive agencies of scientific and social advance are unknown and unrecognized. I can imagine few things that are more pregnant with far-reaching influences than this little movement of ours. Surely a profound and magnificent role in the regeneration of the world is accorded and awaits scientific medicine. Just as certainly scientific medicine depends upon a rigid and thorough-going literary systematization of the results reached by the world's million individual workers. In no branch of human endeavor is there such instant practical application to the needs of humanity as is ours, and in none may the findings of a

solitary worker in Asia, Europe or America, be immediately needed by any other physician in a hamlet or hospital continental distances away. I look forward to such an organization of the literary records of medicine that a puzzled worker in any part of the civilized world shall in an hour be able to gain a knowledge pertaining to a subject of the experience of every other man in the world. It seems strange to me beyond all belief in the stage of civilization which we have reached, when trades-unions of a thousand kinds are local, national and international; when every place of human activity has recognized that the *sine qua non* of progress is organization and inter-communication, that the pricelessly precious results of medical knowledge should be given over to the rapine of commercialism, and to that barbarism of inorganization in which our medical libraries at present do not flourish. In saved lives and spared expense, our state and national governments would make money be devoting millions of dollars to establishing medical libraries in every city and village of the land.

Those attempting to arouse a recognition of the tremendous influence that must come from the organization and founding of medical libraries have met with a strange and regrettable indifference on the part even of some libraries. "Of what use to our library can such an organization be?" has been asked. Of what use is medicine or life itself? might be replied. If the use is not patent and self-evident, then we hardly need attempt stimulating its recognition. Some people are so made and habited that the perception of the light of usefulness must traverse the London smoke of their lift-worn spectacles, and reach the lethargic brain with the dingy tinge of selfishness. To such, argument is useless, and we may hope that their places will some time be filled by psychic emmetropes who love and will labor for the realization of an usefulness morality and the dissemination of a world-renovating science.

As it appears to me there is measureless beneficence and medical utility in the increase of the number of medical libraries, and in the organized co-operation of these, one with another by means of such an association as we purpose to found. At first only half a dozen or a dozen may perhaps thus be brought into common understanding and mutual helpfulness; but sooner or later the inevitable necessities of developing society and science will end in the extension of the scheme until at last every small city of America shall have a public medical library to which the worker within a hundred miles can come and learn in a brief visit what all the workers of the world have done or discovered concerning any one of a thousand great questions involving matters of life and death for the patient. At present every one of the libraries represented here or that may for the next twenty-five years join with us, is poor financially, and as the psychologists would say, hardly struggling above the threshold of perceptibility.

WE CANNOT THEREFORE, AS WE SHOULD, HAVE ANY CENTRAL OR STRIKINGLY CORPORATE EXISTENCE, WITH WELL PAID ASSISTANTS TO CARRY ON THE SEVERE DRUDGERY REQUIRED TO BRING OUR LABOR TO ANY DEGREE OF PRACTICAL EFFICIENCY. HENCE WE CAN ONLY PARCEL THE WORK OUT AMONG OURSELVES AND MEET, SAY, ONCE A YEAR TO COMPARE NOTES, TO GIVE OUT OUR STINTS, TO TAKE COUNCIL TOGETHER, AND TO REAWAKEN IN EACH OTHER'S HEARTS THE SACRED ALTAR FIRE OF SELF-SACRIFICING ZEAL.

The work to be done and to be parcelled out is sufficient, and is so easily divisible that each one of the participants will find enough to do, I suspect, during the coming year. As it seems to me the following are the most important committees:

1. On exchange of Library Duplicates.
2. For Securing Libraries of Retiring of Deceased Physicians.
3. For Securing and Distribution of Transactions of Medical Societies.
4. On Antiquarian Books and Auction Sales.
5. For Securing Endowments of Medical Libraries.
6. On Rare Works in Single Libraries.
7. For Supplying Special Information, Securing Useful Abstracts, Etc.
8. On Library Management, Technic, Devices, Binding, Etc.

N. S. Vol. 1 No. 4 April,

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